

ST JOSEPH'S NEWS

4th & 5th January 2025 – The Epiphany of the Lord (Year C)

MESSAGE FROM FR MARTIN WHEATON:

I would like to say "Thank You" to everyone who worked so hard to make our Christmas services such a great success. We had several families join us who don't normally attend and more than one said how warm and welcoming the parishioners of St Joseph's made them feel. On a more personal note, I would like to thank you for all the cards and Christmas gifts - I was very touched and they were most appreciated. Thank you so much! May I also take this opportunity to wish you and your families every blessing for 2025, the Jubilee Holy Year.

SUNDAY MORNING CELEBRATION IN ST JOSEPH'S, BIRTLEY

Every Sunday there is a Service of The Word, Prayer and Music, including Children's Liturgy, at 10.00am at St Joseph's Church. Our celebrations will continue with tea and coffee in the Parish Centre.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED, MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:

- **Christine Anne Bradley**, died 23rd December, aged 80 years, Requiem Mass Wednesday, 8th January at 1.30pm
- **Dorothy Hattam**, died 23rd December, aged 81 years, funeral details to follow

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE SICK:

Maureen Joyce (nee Casey); Bob Fish and Valerie Waggott

NB: Please let Fr Martin W know of anyone within the parish who is sick or housebound and would like to see a priest.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

If you know of any parishioners who are unable to get to Mass and would like Holy Communion brought to them at home, please give their name, address and Tel. No. to Fr Martin Wheaton or contact Anne Welsh (07801 481021).

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

11th & 12th January – SVP (St Joseph's)
25th & 26th January – Racial Justice

FRIDAY MORNING'S MASS: Please note that Mass this Friday, 10th January, will be held at St Benet's School, Ouston, at 9.15am and there will be no Mass in St Joseph's Church that day. Parents, Guardians and Parishioners will be most welcome to attend. The following is a schedule of Friday morning Masses at St Benet's leading up to Easter, not all alternate weeks but taking into account Priest's holidays and half-term breaks.

- Friday, 31st January at 9.15 am
- Friday, 14th February at 9.15 am
- Friday, 7th March at 9.15 am
- Friday, 4th April at 9.15 am

ROSARY:

Prayed for world peace at St Joseph's every Tuesday at 6.40 pm, prior to the evening Mass.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

At St Joseph's, Birtley, directly after Thursday's 12.00 noon Mass. Please see main Newsletter for details at other St John XXIII parishes.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Thursday evenings from 6.30pm-7.30pm, held in the Front Room of the Presbytery (main door will be open, first room on the left).

NORTHERN CROSS:

On sale at the back of the Church, price £1.50. Please place money in the wall-safe at the side of the entrance door, beside the choir loft stairs.

"THANK YOU" FROM ST. JOSEPH'S SVP:

St Joseph's SVP would like to thank everyone who contributed towards their 2024 Christmas Appeal. We were overwhelmed with your kindness and have put the money to good use in providing Christmas Hampers and toys for needy families across the Parish. May God bless you all in 2025.

MASS INTENTIONS:

If you wish to arrange a special Mass Intention at St Joseph's, "Mass Intention Envelopes" are available at the back of church and in the Sacristy.

ST JOSEPH'S NEWS:

In the short-term, Catherine Tumelty will produce the St Joseph's News with the deadline for entry midday the previous Wednesday. Please send by email to cath.tumelty@btinternet.com (it is easier to cut and paste!) or m. 07512 101206. Fr Martin Wheaton will approve a draft copy before printing. Please note that "Sick & Recently Deceased" notices must have the approval of a family member and should be submitted by clicking the link on the main Parish Newsletter.